

HOUSE RESOLUTION 147  
By Rinks

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Darryl Worley on his remarkable career in country music.

WHEREAS, from the mountains in the East, to the honky-tonks of Nashville, to the streets of Memphis, the sounds of music emanate from every corner of this great State; and

WHEREAS, from Hank Williams to Elvis Presley, Tennessee has borne and nourished the music that revolutionized American culture; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is recognized throughout the world as the home of country music; citizens of this great State share a common love and respect for the sounds, cultures, and sites of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the members of this body are forever indebted to those great musicians and songwriters who, through their artistry and passion, have stirred our souls and inspired us to greater depths of humanity; and

WHEREAS, Darryl Worley is one such estimable artist who has impacted the lives and influenced the perspective of country music fans across the globe; and

WHEREAS, a Hardin County native, Mr. Worley attended Martin Methodist College and the University of North Alabama, and upon graduation, he secured employment as a research biologist in Tuscumbia, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, returning home to Tennessee a few years later, he taught school and then established a successful career in sales; and

WHEREAS, however, coming from a long line of musicians, Darryl Worley could not help but follow the melody within his heart; and

WHEREAS, playing the harmonica from the age of five and the guitar from the age of nine, Mr. Worley began writing songs in high school and, while in college, landed regular gigs at a variety of venues; and

WHEREAS, though having to balance his writing and performing with the demands of a business career, Darryl Worley managed to record several demo tapes that eventually landed him a contract with FAME publishing in Muscle Shoals, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, gambling on a successful career in the music business, Mr. Worley set aside his established career and sought to support himself as a full-time musician; in 1994, his daring and dedication paid off when he signed a contract with EMI Publishing in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, working with producer Frank Rogers, Darryl Worley created musical stylings so impressive that DreamWorks Nashville principal executive James Stroud flew, in his private jet, to rural Tennessee to take in one of Mr. Worley's live shows at the Moose Lodge; and

WHEREAS, with the recent release of his instant hit, "Have You Forgotten?", which salutes U.S. troops serving overseas in the war against terrorism, Darryl Worley became a household name and a country music legend; and

WHEREAS, proceeds from the song, which was inspired by soldiers Mr. Worley encountered while on a USO tour in Afghanistan, will go, in part, to assist struggling military families; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Worley is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Beverly, whom he married in 2001; and

WHEREAS, Darryl Worley epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Darryl Worley for his musical artistry and his patriotic support of U.S. troops serving abroad; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Darryl Worley on his outstanding musical career, commend his patriotism, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.